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Alberta  
Foundation  
for the Arts

2007/2008  
Review

# CONNECTING ART



Alberta  
Strong Communities

ALBERTA  
LOTTERY FUND

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*ALBERTA FOUNDATION  
FOR THE ARTS:*

**CONNECTING**

*ART, ALBERTANS, & COMMUNITIES*

The arts catalyze our energy and enthusiasm, leading us to make connections that evolve into phenomenal relationships. When these relationships are supported and nurtured, they connect people, communities, and ideas.

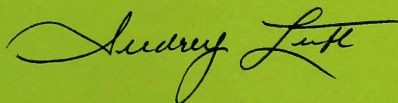
Welcome to the 2007-08 Year in Review, an annual publication to capture one year in the life of Alberta's primary government arts funder. The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) continues to contribute to the growth of Alberta's culture, helping to spark creative connections. These ties are more significant than ever in the light of Alberta's cultural policy, *The Spirit of Alberta*, which made its debut in January 2008.

*The Spirit of Alberta* is a vital component of support for the arts in our province and clearly sets out ways that the AFA can focus on helping the arts build stronger, more sustainable connections with Alberta's communities and the people who live in them.

Alberta's artists, its citizens, and the province's communities all benefit from the AFA's involvement and financial support. In these pages, we showcase the Kelsey Drama Club. It is located in one of Alberta's smallest communities, but has made an impact that extends far beyond the hamlet itself. We focus on how art makes a difference in the lives of troubled youth in the story of Edmonton's ihuman Youth Society, and see how a love of literature brings educators, artists, and students together in the work of the young Alberta Book Society. Also, in celebration of the development of our first Aboriginal Arts grant, we take a look at the Blackfoot Ambassadors dance group.

I encourage you to look at the numbers presented near the end of this publication. It is easy to see the range and scope of AFA support. Every connection made and every relationship developed between different communities in the province brings the AFA closer to achieving its vision of "an Alberta where a vibrant arts community inspires creativity and innovation and is part of the fabric of how we live and work."

A meaningful connection can lead to countless opportunities for growth, evolution, and networking. With the arts community as our partner, we look forward to helping Alberta, its people, and its communities connect and evolve with the arts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Audrey Luft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Audrey" and last name "Luft" clearly distinguishable.

Audrey Luft, Chair  
Alberta Foundation for the Arts Board of Directors

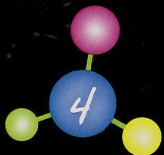


*FORGING*

# *CONNECTIONS*

*THROUGH CULTURE*

The art of Aboriginal dance is steeped in centuries of tradition. But like other artistic media, it is born from pure expression and has the potential to grow and evolve. An intrepid group of performance artists, known as the Blackfoot Ambassadors, has made it their mission to forge deep and unforgettable connections with the audiences they encounter in each community. Through their traditional dance, they find themselves experiencing a new connection with their heritage that they have never known before.

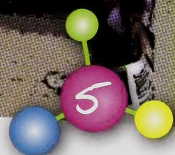


Entertaining and educating audiences across Alberta with its interpretation of Aboriginal arts and traditions, the Blackfoot Ambassadors is a Native American dance group comprised of members ranging from ages two to 28. The group's purpose, according to performer and group leader Carol Melting Tallow is to "Target Native American youth. We want to teach them Native American culture by focusing on past and modern Native American traditions." These traditions take the form of eight styles of Native American dance, and they give the performers an opportunity to share their culture with audience members as they connect with their own heritage.

The origin and development of the Blackfoot Ambassadors can be traced back to the evolution of the Ambassadors' parent organization, the Blackfoot Canadian Cultural Society. The society came into existence in 1998 when Executive Director Mary Anne Crow Healy and other community members sought to address a perceived gap in the Lethbridge cultural scene. "The community wanted to run the Lethbridge International Peace Pow Wow on a consistent annual basis," Crow Healy recalls. "That's where we started. We came to discover that there was nothing in Lethbridge representing Native cultures."

From the International Peace Pow Wow, the society moved gradually into the development of several new community arts initiatives. Emerging from the creative wellspring of the Blackfoot Canadian Cultural Society, the Blackfoot Ambassadors quickly took shape. The society committed over 150 hours towards the development of the troupe's first few performances. This commitment extended beyond choreography into the design and assembly of traditional costumes. Carol Melting Tallow believes the cultural significance of the traditional clothing was integral to the performance. She says historically, "dress designing served as a way to pass artistic, spiritual, and historical knowledge from one generation to the next. As in the past, women respect their tribe's artistic traditions, but allow experiences and new materials to influence their work."

The Blackfoot Society has made a significant impression on the community through performance groups like the Blackfoot Ambassadors. "We want to develop a positive image of our people against negative stereotypes and provide a venue where we can develop relationships with the non-aboriginal community," Crow Healy explains. The Blackfoot Society builds those relationships by showcasing their cultural traditions to all communities and hopes



to chip away at the common stereotypes and preconceived notions that uninformed observers have about Aboriginal peoples.

The performing artists themselves are not left unaffected by these experiences. Crow Healy clarifies, "The dancing is empowering and provides healing for our people. The performers begin to understand who they are; they accept their tradition and begin expressing their heritage through art." By connecting to their own roots, the members of the Blackfoot Ambassadors have successfully engaged with their audiences and in 2007, these connections grew into numerous appearances at cultural festivals and dance showcases throughout Lethbridge and Calgary.

The Blackfoot Ambassadors was also a recipient of an Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) Aboriginal Arts Organizations Project Grant in 2007. This grant category was created in 2006 after consultations with Alberta's Aboriginal arts stakeholders, and is designed to support the growth and development of Aboriginal arts in Alberta. The Blackfoot Society has developed an extensive relationship with the AFA that goes beyond typical funding body-grant recipient relations. "[The AFA] has given us fantastic, and not only financial, support," says Crow Healy. "They've provided development workshops that have helped us move forward with our programs." In addition, the society was a partner in the consultations that led to the development of the Aboriginal Arts Organizations Project Grant. "The Aboriginal Arts Organizations Project Grant was the result of tremendous work done by the AFA Board and Arts

Branch staff to better understand and meet the needs of the Aboriginal arts community," Jeffery Anderson, Executive Director of the AFA, asserts. "In its short existence, this funding has already provided significant assistance to Aboriginal artists and arts groups."

Crow Healy foresees a bright future for the society and for the Blackfoot Ambassadors, one that includes the establishment of a cultural centre for the Aboriginal community in Southern Alberta. "We need the Blackfoot Arts Heritage Centre," she states plainly. "To bring a centre like this to Lethbridge would be a source of identity, pride, and inspiration for our people."

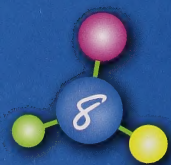






# REBUILDING AND **RECONNECTING** THROUGH THE ARTS

They live in the dark crevices and hidden shadows of society. Hounded by the demons of addiction, poverty, and mental anguish, these young souls face a bleak future with no reprieve. But fate (in the form of a local organization called ihuman Youth Society) seeks to intervene and through the power of the arts, offers at-risk youth a rare chance to rebuild their lives and reconnect with themselves, with life, and with society.

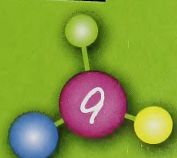


Headquartered in Edmonton's downtown core, ihuman Youth Society is a non-profit group dedicated to helping youth troubled by addiction, poverty, and mental health issues turn their lives around. Sandra Bromley, local artist and co-founder of the program, describes ihuman Youth Society as an organization that tries to "support youth just like a family would." Bromley and the rest of the ihuman staff currently work with nearly 200 at-risk youth. Bromley states matter-of-factly, "When you're coming from the street, trust is a major issue; you've been let down so many times that trust has to be constantly developed. We're trying to build a support system; we never give up on the youth in our program."

Arts programming plays an essential role in ihuman's work. "The arts provide the journey and the excitement for the kids," Bromley explains. "The arts become their mode of expression." Programs provided by ihuman range widely from musical instruction and production to theatre and the visual arts. "We realized early on that we would have to be responsive to their interests," recalls Bromley. "We weren't going to engage them with arts programs they didn't care about. Because of that, many of the arts programs are initiated by the youth." Musical arts programming in particular is integral to encouraging the inclusion of youth, for whom music is often the most accessible art form. The society's programs are developed and facilitated by a team of professionals from local social services and the arts community, with additional support coming from volunteer artists and other community members.



ihuman Youth Society also receives funds from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) through the Community Support Organizations Operating Grant. As a result of this funding, ihuman is able to continue providing its quality services. "I don't think we could have survived without AFA funding," Bromley asserts. "People like supporting more finite projects, so operating funds are hard to find. AFA funding has helped us cope with some of the pressures of the current economy." According to Alberta Arts Consultant Barb Mah, "ihuman provides at-risk youth a chance to add art to their lives. It's refreshing to see communities recognize the potential that the arts have to reach people, and we're happy to play a small role in supporting this kind of essential activity."

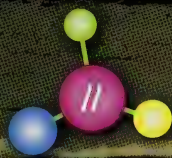


The arts allow the youth to take negative experiences and express them in a meaningful fashion. As youth cultivate their artistic talents and discover their voices, they end up reconnecting with themselves, developing self-esteem and a positive sense of identity. The process takes time and offers no quick fixes. Bromley states, "Youth are with us for a number of years. When we make a commitment to them, we're in it for the long-term." The care and loyalty ihuman offers street youth is reflected in the "graduates" of the program who return to provide experience and compassion to youth struggling through the same problems they themselves know well.



"Our arts programs move beyond art therapy," Bromley adds. "The quality of work produced is amazing. We try to push the kids to make art that's both progressive and important to them." This work has been showcased in a number of live theatre, poetry, and dance performance events throughout the year, and more recently on March 15, 2008 in the *Journey to Light* visual and performance arts display at the Art Gallery of Alberta.

Moving forward, Bromley sees ihuman's role in the community continuing to evolve. "Within the next three years we want to build a purposeful facility that would really provide a focused structure for our needs," she says hopefully. "We also want to be instrumental in assisting policy change by sharing our knowledge of high-risk youth. We currently advise many smaller communities across Alberta, and we're keen on sharing our expertise with other groups facing the same kind of challenges."

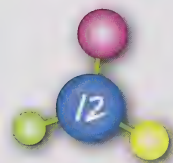




# CONNECTING

SMALL COMMUNITIES FOR  
11 BIG THEATRICAL NIGHTS

If travelers journey a short distance southeast of Camrose, they will encounter a cultural phenomenon known as Kelsey tucked away in the agricultural heartland of central Alberta. Normally a tranquil hamlet, Kelsey becomes a hub of activity every February and unites communities far and wide, thus proving that no connection made through the arts is ever too big or, in this case, too small.

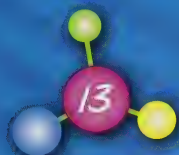


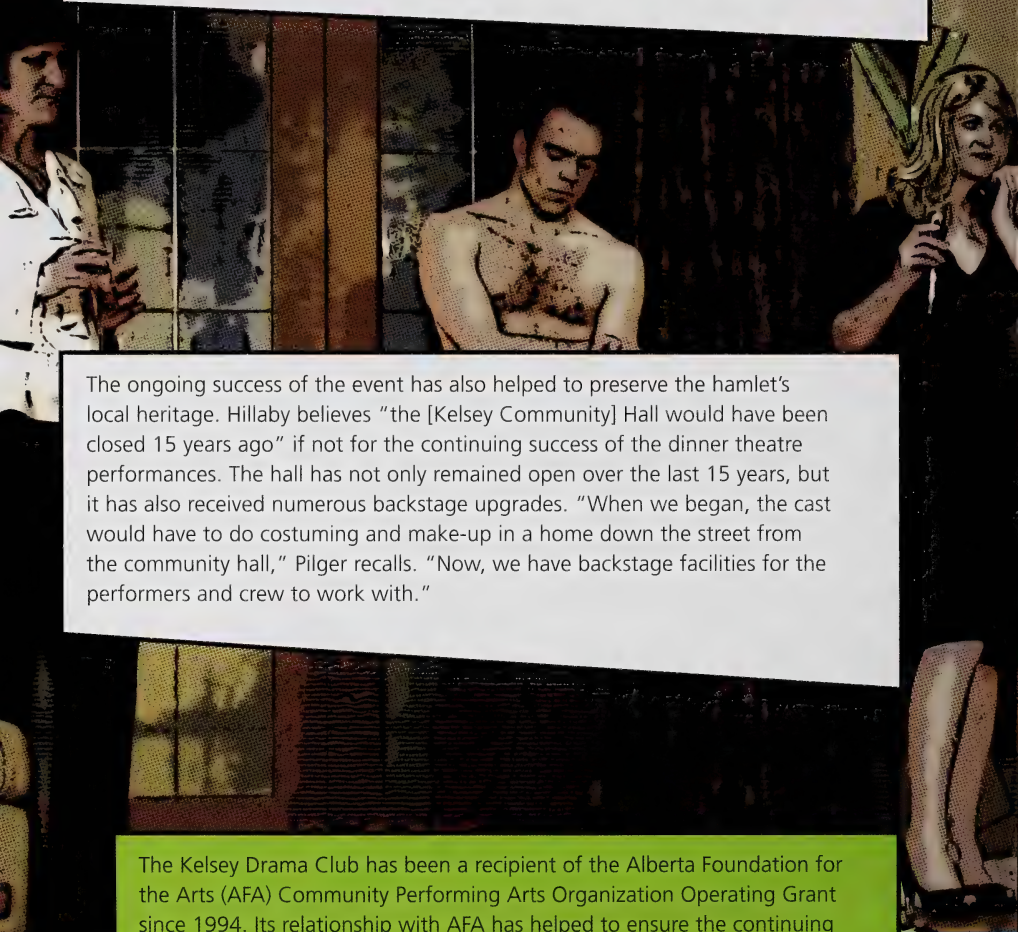
With only 11 residents and three streets, Kelsey appears to be another tiny farming hamlet. However, for 11 consecutive nights every February, Kelsey becomes a bustling centre of cultural activity and plays a vital role in bringing people from surrounding communities together to celebrate the arts.

Since 1993, the Kelsey Drama Club and the Kelsey Community Society have worked in partnership to present the annual Kelsey Dinner Theatre. This event offers residents from nearby communities an opportunity to escape the cold grip of winter in February, and share some laughs as well as a hearty meal. The Kelsey Drama Club consists of a local group of theatre enthusiasts and actors whose goal is to perform a memorable theatrical comedy every year. Club Treasurer Janet Hillaby states, "We want to make sure people have a good time when they see our show."

Evidence suggests that people are doing just that. The Kelsey Dinner Theatre has grown dramatically since its inaugural performance in 1993. "We started out by offering weekend performances, but the show was quite popular and there was a demand for more," Hillaby explains. This year, that demand resulted in 11 sold-out performances of a play entitled *A Little Quickie*. In other words, Kelsey, a hamlet of 11 people, hosted a record 1,144 theatre patrons!

A product of community collaboration, the Kelsey Dinner Theatre is an 11-day production that is supported by roughly 100 volunteers, including the cast and production crew, and numerous sponsors from the local business community. Hillaby believes the impact of such an event on the local community is significant, and that it provides an intangible result beyond just entertainment. "This is a good farming community. We work with our neighbours during the production. The event brings people together and helps build the community."





The Kelsey Drama Club faces the challenge of producing live theatre in an aging facility with both enthusiasm and innovation. Held in the nearly 70-year-old Kelsey Community Hall, this year's production of *A Little Quickie* called for a bit more ingenuity from director Gerry Pilger: "We try to take on a different challenge every year. This year we incorporated video into the show. Because of the small size of our stage, we couldn't perform the show as it was originally written without disrupting the pace of the production, so we used audiovisual equipment to help tell the story and keep the audience engaged."

The ongoing success of the event has also helped to preserve the hamlet's local heritage. Hillaby believes "the [Kelsey Community] Hall would have been closed 15 years ago" if not for the continuing success of the dinner theatre performances. The hall has not only remained open over the last 15 years, but it has also received numerous backstage upgrades. "When we began, the cast would have to do costuming and make-up in a home down the street from the community hall," Pilger recalls. "Now, we have backstage facilities for the performers and crew to work with."

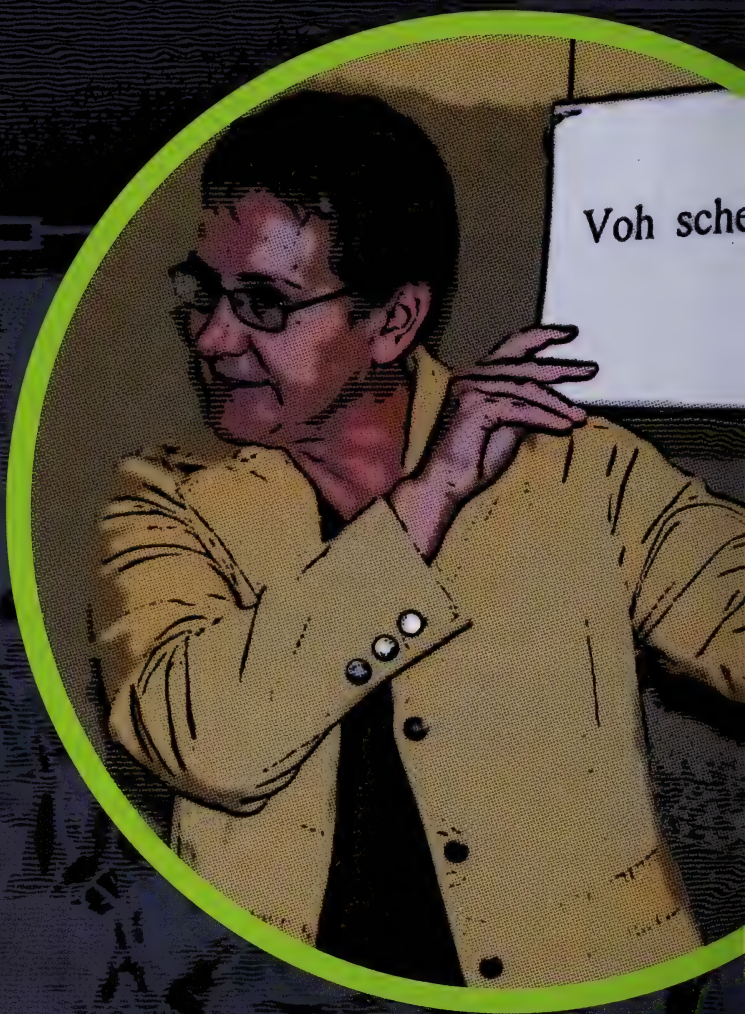
The Kelsey Drama Club has been a recipient of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) Community Performing Arts Organization Operating Grant since 1994. Its relationship with AFA has helped to ensure the continuing success of the theatre productions. "We operate on a shoestring budget," asserts Hillaby. "Performers buy their own costumes, props, and stage make-up. The grants allow the club to reimburse the actors for their expenses and continue presenting high-calibre theatre to an appreciative audience."

According to AFA's Arts Development Director, Al Chapman, the annual Kelsey Dinner Theatre is a perfect example of how Community Performing Arts Organization (CPAO) grants benefit the arts community: "CPAO grants provide an opportunity for community-level arts organizations to enhance the quality of life in their community. A large number of the organizations applying are in rural Alberta. This funding gives them an opportunity to come together in many different capacities and become an integral part of the arts in their region."



The innovative community spirit of the Kelsey Dinner Theatre has helped it attract the attention of local and national media. CBC Radio Toronto covered the event in 2002, and several Edmonton-based television stations and newspapers recently reported on the sold-out performances. The success of the Kelsey Dinner Theatre illustrates the essential role of the arts in connecting communities across Alberta, and also the power of the arts to connect Albertans—not only in the cities, but also in tiny hamlets with only 11 permanent residents.

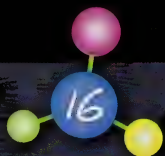


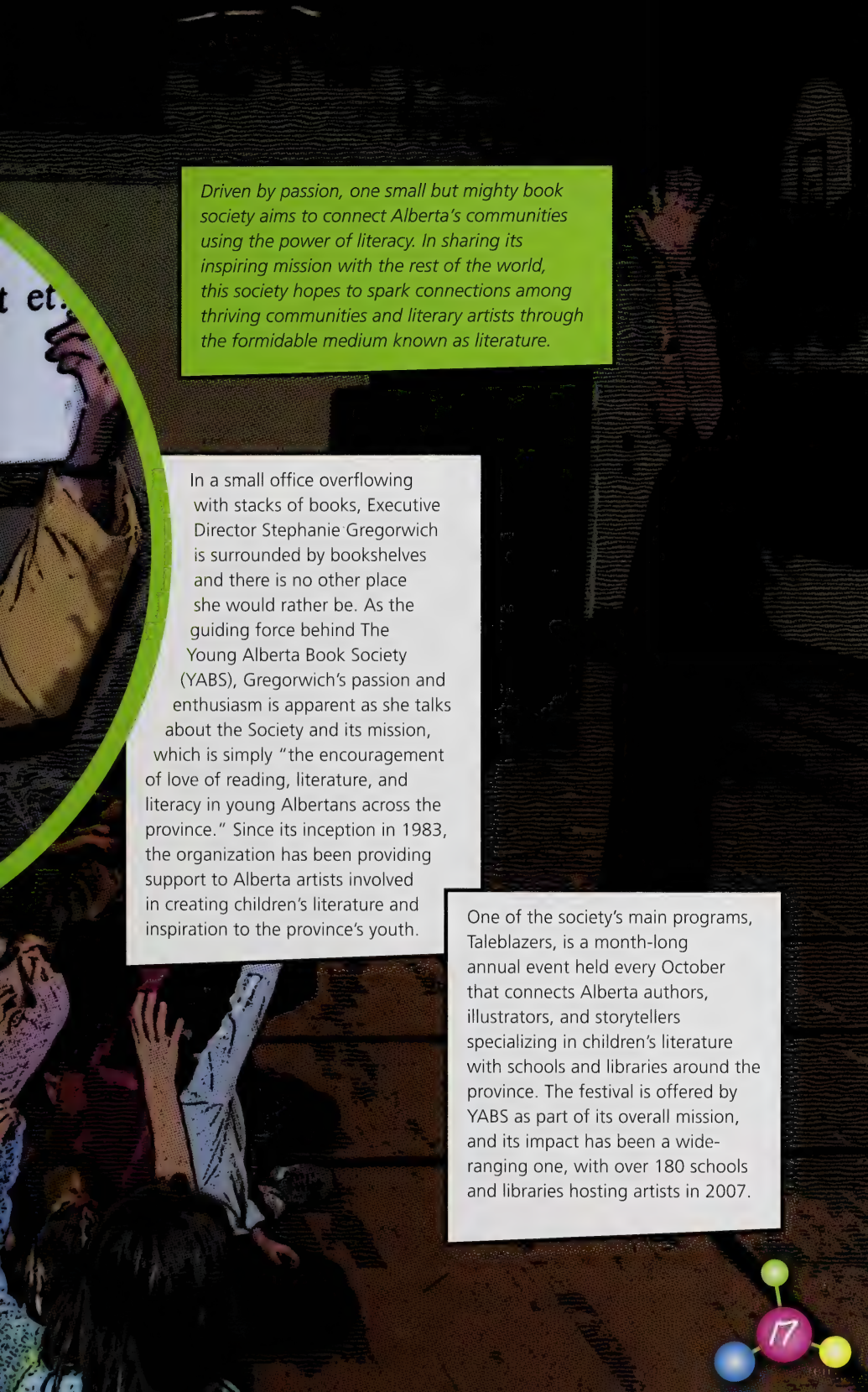


LITERACY SPARKS

# CONNECTIONS

IN COMMUNITIES





*Driven by passion, one small but mighty book society aims to connect Alberta's communities using the power of literacy. In sharing its inspiring mission with the rest of the world, this society hopes to spark connections among thriving communities and literary artists through the formidable medium known as literature.*

In a small office overflowing with stacks of books, Executive Director Stephanie Gregorwich is surrounded by bookshelves and there is no other place she would rather be. As the guiding force behind The Young Alberta Book Society (YABS), Gregorwich's passion and enthusiasm is apparent as she talks about the Society and its mission, which is simply "the encouragement of love of reading, literature, and literacy in young Albertans across the province." Since its inception in 1983, the organization has been providing support to Alberta artists involved in creating children's literature and inspiration to the province's youth.

One of the society's main programs, Taleblazers, is a month-long annual event held every October that connects Alberta authors, illustrators, and storytellers specializing in children's literature with schools and libraries around the province. The festival is offered by YABS as part of its overall mission, and its impact has been a wide-ranging one, with over 180 schools and libraries hosting artists in 2007.

According to Gregorwich, the value of the festival lies in the "inspiring and motivational experience it provides for the kids, particularly those in rural areas. The kids see that the artists are regular people, and this encourages them to explore their own potential." The impact of the Taleblazers festival extends beyond the artists' visits. Students are described by their teachers as having new enthusiasm for reading and writing in their schoolwork. "Taleblazers is not a program that has to run year-round to have year-round benefits," says Gregorwich.

Besides organizing artist presentations, readings, and workshops, the society's role in Taleblazers includes helping to make the connection a smooth one for artists. "We sponsor the artist's travel and accommodation costs, and try to ease the burden for the schools and libraries involved in the program," continues Gregorwich. "We've made it easier for rural communities to take advantage of resources normally available in bigger cities, which is important for communities that would otherwise have limited access to writers and storytellers."



For artists involved in the Taleblazers festival, the rewards are numerous. "Taleblazers helps Alberta authors and illustrators connect with their readers. They draw inspiration from interacting with the kids they write for; it's important for artists to have opportunities to engage their audience," Gregorwich asserts. "The financial incentive and economic benefit is important as well. Writing and illustrating, traditionally, aren't lucrative professions; when you factor these things together, you'll find several artists have been involved with our program for a long time because of what it can offer them."



The continuing success of the Taleblazers has led YABS to create several new programs in recent years. Its second annual Story Avenue was held in Edmonton over a two-day period in early 2008, with ten Alberta authors and illustrators conducting creative workshops with 400 inner-city students in grades five and six. 2008 also featured the second year of the Wordsworth program, a weekend event designed for teenagers 15 years and older, which enlists Alberta authors of young adult literature to conduct workshops and presentations for an eager group of developing young writers. The Wordsworth program is aimed at "young writers keen on exploring their skill development," states Gregorwich. "This is where we find the kids that are really enthusiastic and engaged. We try to target dynamic artists who have some skill in the classroom and who can understand and connect with teenagers."

The YABS has had a long and beneficial relationship with the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA); most recently it was a recipient of AFA's

Community Support Organizations Grant. "As a non-profit arts organization, core funding is hard to come by, and clearly, if we don't have it, we can't operate," explains Gregorwich. "We're glad that the AFA recognizes the need for core funding. Without it, our resources and programming capacity would be severely impacted."

Funding from the AFA and other sponsors has helped dedicated and passionate staff like Gregorwich ensure the continued growth and relevance of YABS programs. "We're looking to increase the range of the Taleblazers festival and seek stronger representation across the province. We'll also continue to develop our more recent programs and look for more opportunities in the future. The response from the artists, students, teachers, and librarians involved in our programs has been overwhelming, and I believe that the demand for our programs will only continue to grow as we help our artists and communities connect with each other."



# AFA JURORS

FOR PROGRAMS IN  
2007-08



**Aboriginal Arts Organizations Project:**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Dallas Arcand | Calgary    |
| Sherri Chisan | St. Paul   |
| Tanya Harnett | Lethbridge |

**Art Acquisition by Application:**

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Steven Dixon   | Edmonton |
| Richard Gordon | Calgary  |
| Amy Loewan     | Edmonton |
| Ruby Mah       | Edmonton |
| Anthea Stewart | Calgary  |

**Artists and Education:**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Grant Cameron | Edmonton   |
| Kelly Frewin  | Lethbridge |
| Wendy Parson  | Moose Jaw  |

**Cultural Industries Organizations Project:**

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Melody Jacobson | Calgary  |
| Ian Russell     | Calgary  |
| Donna Weis      | Edmonton |

**Dance Projects:**

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Cherice Barton | Jersey City, NY |
| Laura Krewski  | Edmonton        |
| Tanya McNabb   | Calgary         |
| Gerry Morita   | Edmonton        |
| Kathy Ochoa    | Edmonton        |
| Lillian Wilner | Calgary         |

**Music Projects:**

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Kerry Clarke           | Calgary  |
| Samantha Whelan Kotkas | Calgary  |
| Rick Mizzoni           | Calgary  |
| Ryan Purchase          | Edmonton |
| Sarah Pocklington      | Edmonton |
| Jowi Taylor            | Toronto  |

**Theatre Projects:**

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Randall Fraser  | Edmonton |
| Heather Inglis  | Edmonton |
| Valerie Planche | Calgary  |
| Meredith Scott  | Edmonton |
| Ryan Sigurdson  | Edmonton |
| Davina Stewart  | Edmonton |

**Visual Arts Projects:**

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Diana Anderson         | Red Deer       |
| Belinda Belseck        | Blairmore      |
| Joane Cardinal-Shubert | Calgary        |
| Mark Dicey             | Calgary        |
| Ken Housego            | Grande Prairie |
| Liz Ingram             | Edmonton       |

**Film/Video Projects:**

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Sharon Adams         | Calgary  |
| Shomee Chakrabarty   | Edmonton |
| Joel Higham          | Edmonton |
| Anne Koizumi         | Calgary  |
| Marie-France Leroyer | Tofield  |
| Ron Scott            | Edmonton |

**Multidisciplinary Projects:**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Christine Cook      | Calgary   |
| Marjan Eggermont    | Calgary   |
| Velveeta Krisp      | Vancouver |
| Anne Marie Nakagawa | Calgary   |
| Anthea Stewart      | Calgary   |
| Peter Stinson       | Saskatoon |

**Writing Projects:**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Kimmy Marie Beach | Red Deer    |
| Jacqueline Guest  | Bragg Creek |
| Glenn Rollans     | Edmonton    |
| Rose Scollard     | Calgary     |
| Anna Marie Sewell | Edmonton    |
| Richard Stevenson | Lethbridge  |

**Community Support Organizations Projects:**

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Michelle Casavant | Edmonton   |
| Lindsay Farr      | Edmonton   |
| Laurie Stalker    | St. Albert |





*2007-08*

# ***BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

***ALBERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS***



## **AUDREY LUFT - EDMONTON** **CHAIR**

Audrey Luft was appointed to the AFA in 2000, appointed Vice-Chair in 2002, and has served as Chair since March 2004. With over 30 years of industry experience as president and owner of the Alberta Franchise of Manpower Inc., Audrey Luft is responsible for the vision and overall management of her company, which includes offices in Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, and Fort McMurray. Through her global involvement with Manpower Inc. and industry advisory groups, she has developed expertise in all aspects of business and shares her knowledge through membership in a wide range of organizations.

In addition to her contributions to the AFA Board, Audrey actively participates in numerous business advisory groups, committees, and foundations in Alberta, including the NAIT Board of Governors, the Pilgrim's Hospice Society, the Edmonton Art Gallery, the Alberta Heart Institute, and the Telus Community Board. Past Chair of the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation, Audrey has also served on the boards of the Edmonton Art Gallery, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Alberta College, the YMCA, and the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce. She has received many awards, including The City of Edmonton Citation Award, Global's Woman of Vision Award, and Grant MacEwan College's prestigious Dr. Charles Allard Chair in Business.

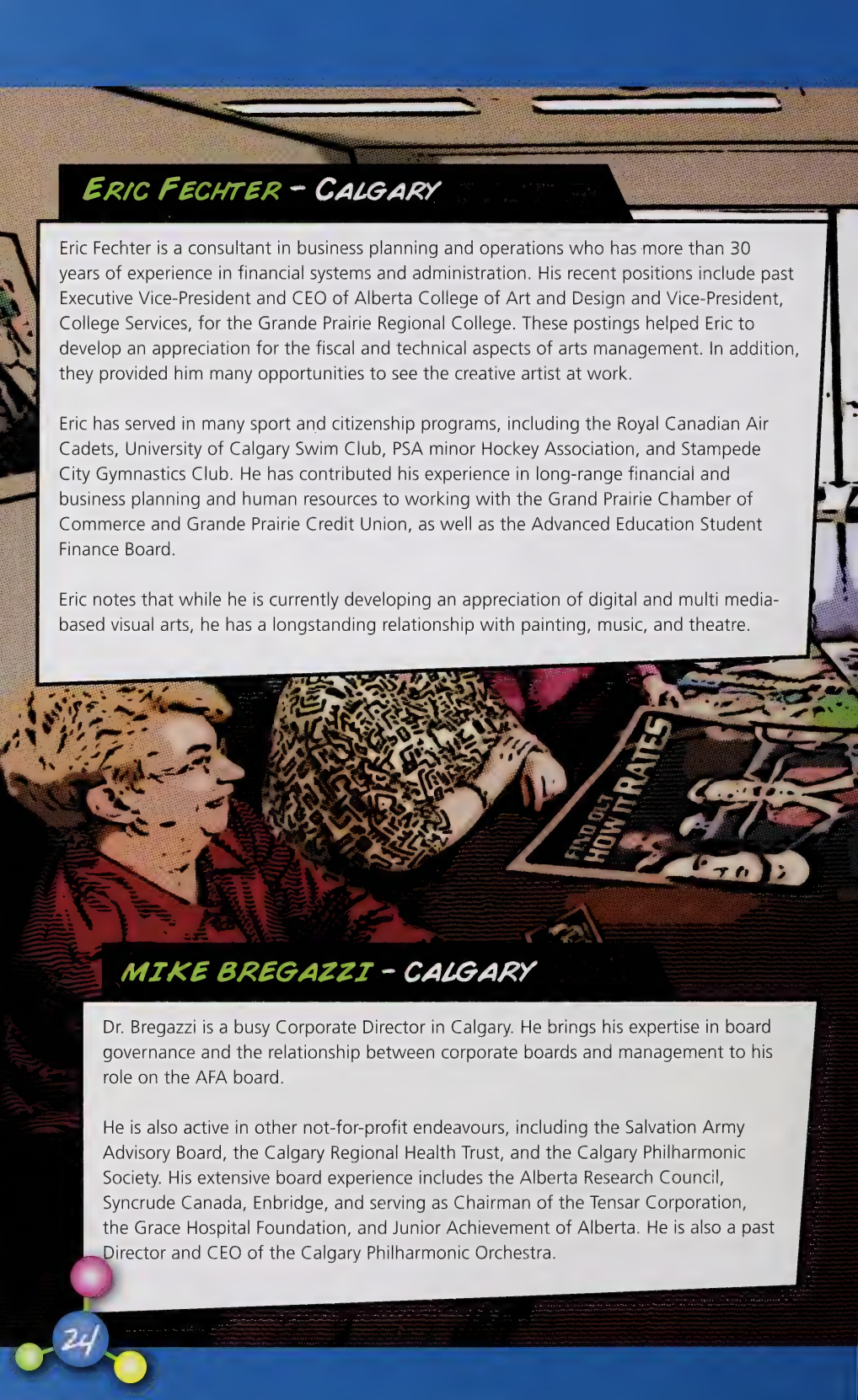
## **GREGOR ALLAN - EDMONTON** **VICE-CHAIR**

Gregor Allan is a recent appointment to the Vice-Chair position on the AFA Board. He is also Director of Sales, Alberta Public Sector for TELUS Communications Inc. He has a diverse range of interests that supports his business and volunteer activities. This diversity is represented by his education, which includes Bachelor's degrees in Fine Arts and in Education, as well as an MBA.

His work life focuses on leadership in a corporate context. His community contributions include a ten-year tenure with Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta. He is also an active participant in the University of Alberta MBA Mentorship Program and is a regular guest lecturer.

Gregor and his wife are proud parents to twin boys. With all the activity that they bring to Gregor's life, he still finds time for his personal artistic pursuits, as well as travelling, camping, golfing, running, and bike riding.





## **ERIC FECHTER - CALGARY**

Eric Fechter is a consultant in business planning and operations who has more than 30 years of experience in financial systems and administration. His recent positions include past Executive Vice-President and CEO of Alberta College of Art and Design and Vice-President, College Services, for the Grande Prairie Regional College. These postings helped Eric to develop an appreciation for the fiscal and technical aspects of arts management. In addition, they provided him many opportunities to see the creative artist at work.

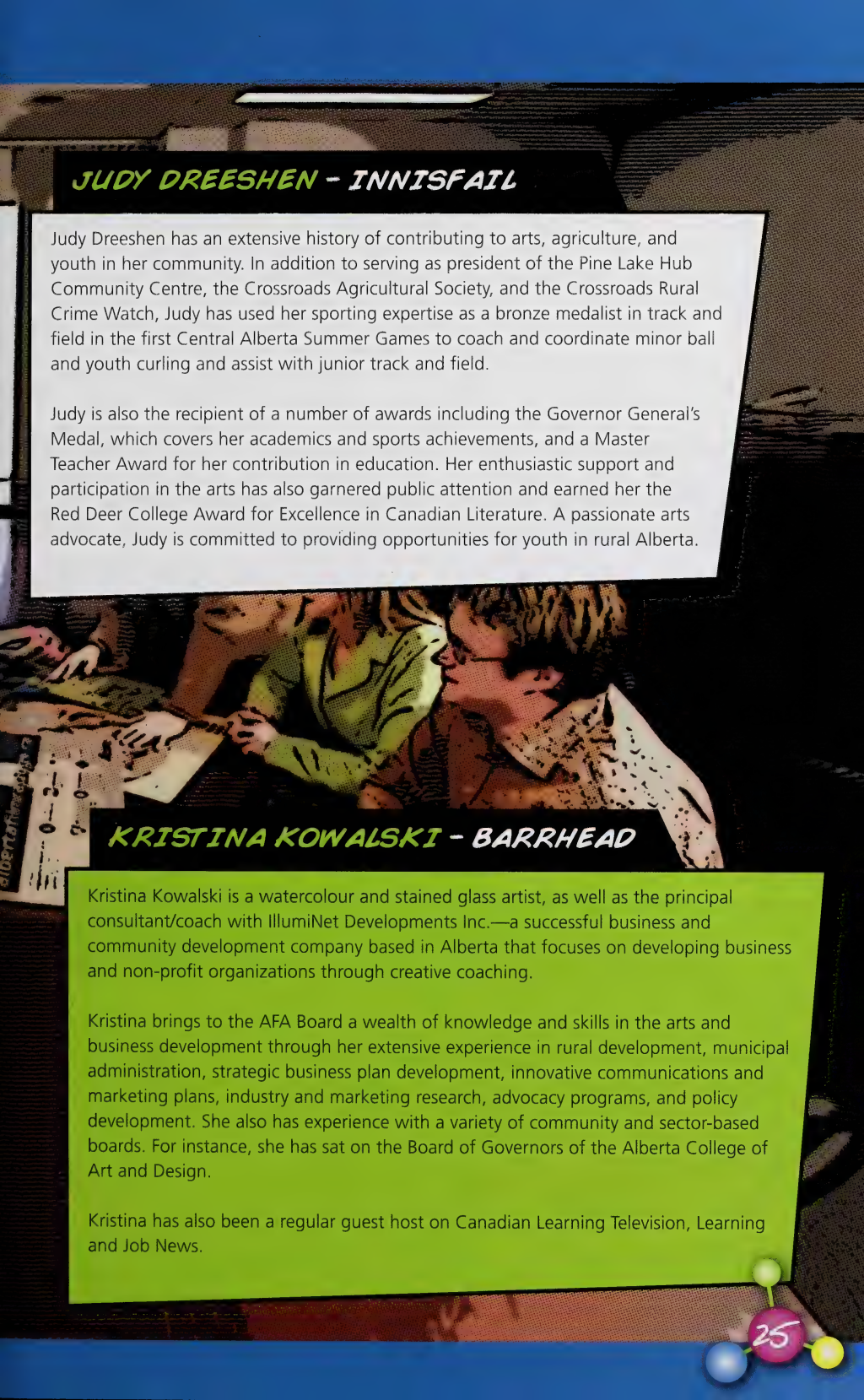
Eric has served in many sport and citizenship programs, including the Royal Canadian Air Cadets, University of Calgary Swim Club, PSA minor Hockey Association, and Stampede City Gymnastics Club. He has contributed his experience in long-range financial and business planning and human resources to working with the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce and Grande Prairie Credit Union, as well as the Advanced Education Student Finance Board.

Eric notes that while he is currently developing an appreciation of digital and multi media-based visual arts, he has a longstanding relationship with painting, music, and theatre.

## **MIKE BREGAZZI - CALGARY**

Dr. Bregazzi is a busy Corporate Director in Calgary. He brings his expertise in board governance and the relationship between corporate boards and management to his role on the AFA board.

He is also active in other not-for-profit endeavours, including the Salvation Army Advisory Board, the Calgary Regional Health Trust, and the Calgary Philharmonic Society. His extensive board experience includes the Alberta Research Council, Syncrude Canada, Enbridge, and serving as Chairman of the Tensar Corporation, the Grace Hospital Foundation, and Junior Achievement of Alberta. He is also a past Director and CEO of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.



## **JUDY DREESHEN - INNISFAIL**

Judy Dreeschen has an extensive history of contributing to arts, agriculture, and youth in her community. In addition to serving as president of the Pine Lake Hub Community Centre, the Crossroads Agricultural Society, and the Crossroads Rural Crime Watch, Judy has used her sporting expertise as a bronze medalist in track and field in the first Central Alberta Summer Games to coach and coordinate minor ball and youth curling and assist with junior track and field.

Judy is also the recipient of a number of awards including the Governor General's Medal, which covers her academics and sports achievements, and a Master Teacher Award for her contribution in education. Her enthusiastic support and participation in the arts has also garnered public attention and earned her the Red Deer College Award for Excellence in Canadian Literature. A passionate arts advocate, Judy is committed to providing opportunities for youth in rural Alberta.



## **KRISTINA KOWALSKI - BARRHEAD**

Kristina Kowalski is a watercolour and stained glass artist, as well as the principal consultant/coach with IllumiNet Developments Inc.—a successful business and community development company based in Alberta that focuses on developing business and non-profit organizations through creative coaching.

Kristina brings to the AFA Board a wealth of knowledge and skills in the arts and business development through her extensive experience in rural development, municipal administration, strategic business plan development, innovative communications and marketing plans, industry and marketing research, advocacy programs, and policy development. She also has experience with a variety of community and sector-based boards. For instance, she has sat on the Board of Governors of the Alberta College of Art and Design.

Kristina has also been a regular guest host on Canadian Learning Television, Learning and Job News.

## **KAREN KRYCZKA - CALGARY**

A recently retired two-term MLA for the Government of Alberta, Karen Kryczka brings her extensive professional experience in human resource management, counselling, and public relations/marketing to the Foundation.

Karen's substantial community involvement at the board/director/chairperson levels includes being a former member and current Senator with the University of Calgary Senate, a member of the Stephen Avenue Mall Board, The Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, and the University of Alberta Alumni Association. She has also served as a member of the Secretary Arts Advisory Committee of Mount Royal College, the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame Committee, and the United Way Calgary Campaign. Her professional associations have included being a member of the Human Resources Institute of Alberta, the Human Resources Association of Calgary, and the Calgary Legal Administrators.

## **DOUGLAS ABEL - FORT MCMURRAY**

Douglas Abel's career in the theatre spans 35 years. His roles have been as an actor, director, playwright, translator, voice-over specialist, voice and dialect coach, and theatre educator. He currently teaches and acts as a Drama Program Head at Keyano College in Fort McMurray and has also taught at the University of Waterloo and Ryerson Polytechnical University. He holds MA and PhD degrees from the University of Toronto, an Honours BA degree from Queen's University in Kingston, and an LRAM in speech and drama from the Royal Academy of Music, London.

Doug has also served on numerous boards including Keyano College, Theatre Alberta, and the Fort McMurray Youth Theatre Society, serving as president of the last two organizations. His volunteer work includes participation in the Young Authors Festival and the Arctic Winter Games. He received the Wood Buffalo Cultural Achievement Award in 2002.

## **BOB MASKELL - EDMONTON**

Bob is best known as the founding Principal of Edmonton's Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts, but he is also a former MLA (Edmonton-Meadowlark) with historical employment as a baker and railroader.

Bob's varied volunteerism includes serving as President of Alberta Teachers' Association Business Education Council, Chair of the Alberta Library Board, and Chair of Edmonton-Harbin Friendship Society.

A strong advocate of the value of the arts in education, Bob has also served as Director of Alberta Ballet. His many awards include the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce Achievement Award, the Merit award for contributions to Edmonton Public School District Seven, and The City of Edmonton citation award for service to the community and to the arts.

## **JEFFREY WELLING - MEDICINE HAT**

Recently retired from Medicine Hat College where he instructed in Math, Engineering, Physics, and Computer-Aided Drafting and Design, Jeffrey now has time to focus on the retail clothing store he and his wife have owned for the past 27 years.

Jeffrey has always been an active volunteer. He has contributed to the Kinsmen Club, Medicine Hat Downtown Business Association, Medicine Hat District Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Senate of the University of Lethbridge. He is currently an Associate Director on the board of the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede Company.

Jeffrey has been an active participant in various stage productions over the years in Medicine Hat; he also spent time in the Peterborough Theatre Guild both on stage and back stage, and is a member of the male chorus in the Medicine Hat Musical Theatre production of South Pacific, to be presented in November 2007.

## **DAN WESTWOOD - LETHBRIDGE**

A principal in the Lethbridge architectural firm Ferrari Westwood, Dan is an enthusiastic volunteer and art collector. He is past president of the Southern Alberta Art Gallery and a member of the Lethbridge Regional Hospital Foundation Board.

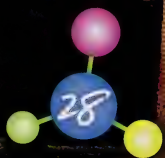
Dan has received several awards, including the CEFPI Architectural Building Design Award (Alberta Chapter) and Alberta Association of Architects Certificate of Achievement in NCARB.

In his spare time, Dan is an amateur sculptor and recently started taking guitar lessons with his daughter. He is a frequent attendee at local art functions.





# AWARDS SUMMARY 2007-08



# **CULTURE & COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

**ENTITY: ALBERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

**AWARDS LISTING 2007/08 - TOTAL \$25,199,899**

**TOTAL AWARDED IN 2007/08 - 1,395**

## **Aboriginal Arts Organizations Project**

Assists Aboriginal Organizations by providing a grant for a specific arts project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$85,551  
No. of Grants Awarded: 9

## **Art Acquisition by Application**

To collect and preserve works of art by Alberta artists and to encourage artists resident in Alberta in their work.

Total Amount Awarded: \$214,750  
No. of Grants Awarded: 42

## **Alberta Games Cultural Component**

To underwrite grants to communities hosting the Alberta Games and Zone Games.

Total Amount Awarded: \$148,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 1

## **Alberta Major Performing Arts Companies**

Supports the annual operating expenses of Alberta's ten largest performing arts companies in a manner consistent with a philosophy of artistic and financial sustainability.

Total Amount Awarded: \$5,500,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 10

## **Art Acquisition - Curatorial**

Albertan visual art work purchases curated for the Foundation Board.

Total Amount Awarded: \$188,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 18

## **Artists and Education**

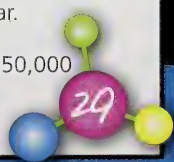
Assists in presenting residency programs in schools by professional Alberta artists, organizations or specialists.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,038,731  
No. of Grants Awarded: 251

## **Arts Festivals**

Supports the presentation of artists in all artistic disciplines by reimbursing a portion of artists' fees for defined festival presentations that have occurred in the preceding year.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,150,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 64





### Arts Partnership

Provides financial support for innovative partnership initiatives between clients and stakeholders.

Total Amount Awarded: \$46,635  
No. of Grants Awarded: 4

### Community Presenting

Supports the presentation of artists in all artistic disciplines by assisting community organizations with artists' fees.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,150,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 119

### Cultural Industries Organizations Project

Supports projects undertaken by registered Alberta companies and not-for-profit organizations that create and produce new cultural work.

Total Amount Awarded: \$100,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 11

### Book Publishers

Supports book publishing companies in Alberta by assisting with operating expenses.

Total Amount Awarded: \$360,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 10

### Cultural Relations

Supports artists and organizations in any arts discipline that will officially represent Alberta at a national or international level, and to support artists from outside Alberta who are participating in an official artistic exchange.

Total Amount Awarded: \$76,384  
No. of Grants Awarded: 12

### Community Performing Arts Organizations

Supports creating and producing performing arts activity by assisting community performing arts organizations with annual operating costs.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,055,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 129

### Designated Arts Organizations

Provides operating funds to designated arts organizations that are deemed unique by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.

Total Amount Awarded: \$174,632  
No. of Grants Awarded: 4

### **Magazine Publishers**

Supports magazine publishers in Alberta by assisting with editorial and pre-press expenses.

Total Amount Awarded: \$184,999  
No. of Grants Awarded: 8

### **Post Secondary Institutions**

Assists post secondary institutions or their affiliated organizations which are not funded by Alberta Learning with projects and programs.

Total Amount Awarded: \$700,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 16

### **Major Facilities**

This program was established by the Government of Alberta in 1985 to provide operating funds for the EPCOR Centre for Performing Arts in Calgary and the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton.

Total Amount Awarded: \$750,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 2

### **Professional Performing Arts Companies**

Supports creating and producing performing arts activity by assisting professional performing arts companies with annual operating expenses.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,900,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 38

### **Operating-Community Support Organization**

Assists with annual operating expenses for community organizations in Alberta whose primary activity is the support and promotion of the arts.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,980,868  
No. of Grants Awarded: 118

### **Projects-Community Support Organizations**

Assists community not-for-profit organizations by providing a grant for a specific arts activity.

Total Amount Awarded: \$85,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 12



### Projects Development

Assists projects the board feels worthy of support.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,730,000

No. of Grants Awarded: 5

### Projects Music

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific music project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$560,626

No. of Grants Awarded: 113

### Projects Dance

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific dance project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$281,635

No. of Grants Awarded: 64

### Projects Theatre

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific theatre project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$310,859

No. of Grants Awarded: 75

### Projects Film/Video

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific film and/or video project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$271,246

No. of Grants Awarded: 45

### Projects Visual Arts

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific visual arts project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$539,513

No. of Grants Awarded: 92

### Projects Multidisciplinary

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific multidisciplinary or new media project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$83,492

No. of Grants Awarded: 16

### Projects Writing

Supports the artistic development of individual Alberta artists or an ensemble of artists who are working together by providing a grant for a specific writing project.

Total Amount Awarded: \$310,983

No. of Grants Awarded: 65

### Provincial Arts Service Organizations

Assists provincial arts service organizations with annual operating and programming costs.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,599,998  
No. of Grants Awarded: 11

### Tommy Banks Award

Recognizes the achievements of music directors and students participating in Alberta Jr/Sr High School band programs and is offered in partnership with the Alberta International Band Festival Association.

Total Amount Awarded: \$3,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 1

### Public Galleries

Assists organizations throughout the province to offer visual arts exhibition programs to Albertans.

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,799,997  
No. of Grants Awarded: 18

### Travelling Exhibitions

Assist in presenting visual arts exhibitions that are easily accessible to all communities.

Total Amount Awarded: \$400,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 5

### Sound Recording Labels

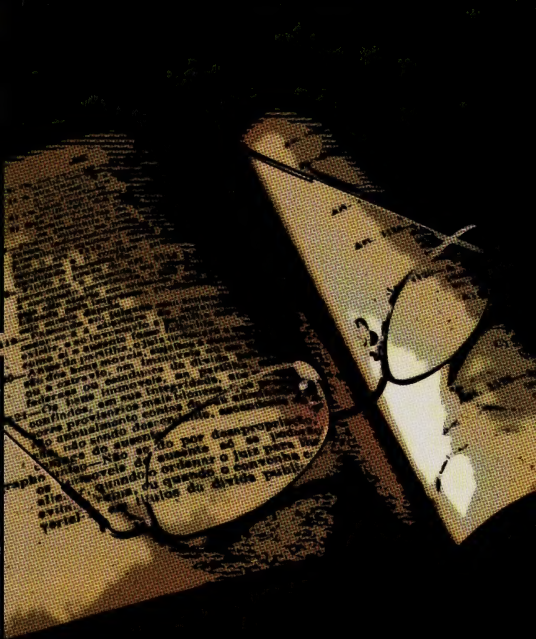
Supports sound recording labels by assisting with annual operating expenses for the development and release of new recordings, and with music publishing copyrights.

Total Amount Awarded: 100,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 3

### Summer School Operations

Supports Artstrek, Music Camp, Summerscapes, and Youth write.

Total Amount Awarded: \$320,000  
No. of Grants Awarded: 4



# AFA GRANTS BY CONSTITUENCY (NUMBER & AMOUNT) 2007/08

| CONSTITUENCY                 | #  | AMOUNT    |
|------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Airdrie-Chestermere          | 8  | 131,380   |
| Athabasca-Redwater           | 18 | 100,898   |
| Banff-Cochrane               | 31 | 466,218   |
| Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock | 6  | 26,861    |
| Battle River-Wainwright      | 14 | 93,520    |
| Bonnyville-Cold Lake         | 9  | 36,103    |
| Calgary-Bow                  | 20 | 123,899   |
| Calgary-Buffalo              | 79 | 5,988,822 |
| Calgary-Cross                | 3  | 13,510    |
| Calgary-Currie               | 46 | 478,780   |
| Calgary-East                 | 6  | 44,908    |
| Calgary-Egmont               | 31 | 317,658   |
| Calgary-Elbow                | 36 | 464,917   |
| Calgary-Fish Creek           | 8  | 47,522    |
| Calgary-Foothills            | 10 | 64,409    |
| Calgary-Fort                 | 9  | 91,642    |
| Calgary-Glenmore             | 11 | 92,392    |
| Calgary-Hays                 | 7  | 38,857    |
| Calgary-Lougheed             | 13 | 72,398    |
| Calgary-Mackay               | 3  | 27,277    |
| Calgary-McCall               | 6  | 49,465    |
| Calgary-Montrose             | 4  | 17,763    |
| Calgary-Mountain View        | 50 | 428,233   |
| Calgary-North Hill           | 37 | 216,412   |
| Calgary-North West           | 11 | 119,343   |
| Calgary-Nose Hill            | 4  | 19,055    |
| Calgary-Shaw                 | 10 | 55,788    |
| Calgary-Varsity              | 27 | 393,252   |
| Calgary-West                 | 11 | 55,776    |
| Cardston-Taber-Warner        | 7  | 30,787    |
| Drayton Valley-Calmar        | 4  | 17,469    |

| CONSTITUENCY                 |
|------------------------------|
| Cypress-Medicine Hat         |
| Drumheller-Stettler          |
| Dunvegan-Central Peace       |
| Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview   |
| Edmonton-Calder              |
| Edmonton-Castle Downs        |
| Edmonton-Centre              |
| Edmonton-Decore              |
| Edmonton-Ellerslie           |
| Edmonton-Glenora             |
| Edmonton-Gold Bar            |
| Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood   |
| Edmonton-Manning             |
| Edmonton-McClung             |
| Edmonton-Meadowlark          |
| Edmonton-Mill Creek          |
| Edmonton-Mill Woods          |
| Edmonton-Riverview           |
| Edmonton-Rutherford          |
| Edmonton-Strathcona          |
| Edmonton-Whitemud            |
| Foothills-Rocky View         |
| Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo   |
| Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville |
| Grande Prairie-Smoky         |
| Grande Prairie-Wapiti        |
| Highwood                     |
| Innisfail-Sylvan Lake        |
| Lac La Biche-St. Paul        |
| Lacombe-Ponoka               |
| Leduc-Beaumont-Devon         |



| #  | AMOUNT    |
|----|-----------|
| 5  | 23,654    |
| 17 | 127,914   |
| 3  | 33,186    |
| 3  | 11,692    |
| 11 | 140,251   |
| 7  | 42,741    |
| 88 | 3,902,062 |
| 3  | 13,500    |
| 6  | 23,715    |
| 43 | 1,379,599 |
| 34 | 1,411,557 |
| 27 | 170,914   |
| 5  | 23,292    |
| 14 | 107,774   |
| 12 | 62,361    |
| 28 | 207,872   |
| 11 | 65,470    |
| 50 | 498,804   |
| 16 | 67,933    |
| 65 | 1,088,930 |
| 21 | 118,472   |
| 18 | 156,450   |
| 8  | 114,897   |
| 13 | 72,681    |
| 16 | 372,988   |
| 17 | 116,912   |
| 11 | 43,789    |
| 10 | 34,571    |
| 17 | 76,499    |
| 9  | 28,842    |
| 9  | 41,159    |

| CONSTITUENCY                     | #  | AMOUNT    |
|----------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Lesser Slave Lake                | 6  | 36,049    |
| Lethbridge-East                  | 15 | 118,232   |
| Lethbridge-West                  | 20 | 446,167   |
| Little Bow                       | 7  | 38,490    |
| Livingstone-Macleod              | 14 | 124,545   |
| Medicine Hat                     | 13 | 270,166   |
| Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills        | 11 | 47,643    |
| Peace River                      | 14 | 158,392   |
| Red Deer-North                   | 19 | 331,191   |
| Red Deer-South                   | 14 | 168,215   |
| Rocky Mountain House             | 8  | 43,555    |
| Sherwood Park                    | 15 | 131,099   |
| Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert | 10 | 82,690    |
| St. Albert                       | 18 | 258,834   |
| Stony Plain                      | 6  | 57,056    |
| Strathcona                       | 12 | 111,860   |
| Strathmore-Brooks                | 12 | 82,819    |
| Vermilion-Lloydminster           | 14 | 97,584    |
| West Yellowhead                  | 10 | 47,686    |
| Wetaskiwin-Camrose               | 13 | 101,140   |
| Whitcourt-St. Anne               | 3  | 10,691    |
| Other Alberta Art Projects       | 5  | 1,730,000 |

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